



For Immediate Release
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NEWS RELEASE

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A Gift of Better Hearing — Donate Your Used Hearing Aids

(Salt Lake City, UT) - The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) needs used hearing aids to help hearing-impaired children in Utah and their families who cannot afford to purchase new ones. You can give the gift of better hearing this holiday season by making a charitable contribution to the UDOH's Hearing Aid Recycling Program (HARP).

"There are many useable hearing aids that are not being worn," according to Katie Denter, community health technician with the UDOH's Hearing, Speech and Vision Services. "When people donate used hearing aids we test them and, if necessary, repair them. We then fit them on hearing-impaired children under 18 years of age according to their need," says Denter.

Over the past five years 113 hearing-impaired Utah children have been given the gift of better hearing thanks to generous Utahns who have donated used hearing aids. These generous contributions have saved families about \$100,000 according to Denter. New hearing aids may cost up to \$1,000 each.

For information about donating hearing aids or to see if a child qualifies for the UDOH's HARP Program, call Katie Denter, 801-584-8218 (Salt Lake area); 1-800-829-8200 option #5 (outside Salt Lake area); or write to Hearing, Speech and Vision Services, 44 North Medical Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84113.

Donors receive a self-addressed, stamped, packing envelope in which to return the aid(s). Included in the package is a letter from the program acknowledging the contribution. Donating hearing aids may be considered a charitable contribution for federal tax purposes.

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